

**From:** [Biscoe, Melanie](#)  
**To:** [Lara, Rhina](#); [Herrick, Jacquelyn](#); [Britton, Cathryn](#); [Saunders, Jennifer](#)  
**Cc:** [Fletcher, Rachel](#); [Cyran, Carissa](#); [Stoner, Nora](#)  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS INQUIRY: Media Interview Request: Business Insider - Seresto  
**Date:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 2:02:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [Seresto Petition Press Inquiry - 7-22-21 - PRD staff level.docx](#)

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Rhina,

Here are PRD staff-level revisions in track changes.

If you have any questions, let me know (I am off at 3 PM today FYI)

Thanks for pulling this together!

Melanie Biscoe

Senior Regulatory Advisor, RMIB5

Pesticide Re-evaluation Division

US EPA Office of Pesticide Programs

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**From:** Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 12:45 PM

**To:** Biscoe, Melanie <[Biscoe.Melanie@epa.gov](mailto:Biscoe.Melanie@epa.gov)>; Herrick, Jacquelyn <[Herrick.Jacquelyn@epa.gov](mailto:Herrick.Jacquelyn@epa.gov)>; Britton, Cathryn <[Britton.Cathryn@epa.gov](mailto:Britton.Cathryn@epa.gov)>; Saunders, Jennifer <[Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Fletcher, Rachel <[fletcher.rachel@epa.gov](mailto:fletcher.rachel@epa.gov)>; Cyran, Carissa <[Cyran.Carissa@epa.gov](mailto:Cyran.Carissa@epa.gov)>; Stoner, Nora <[Stoner.Nora@epa.gov](mailto:Stoner.Nora@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: PRESS INQUIRY: Media Interview Request: Business Insider - Seresto

Thank you! If I could have a response by **2 PM**, that would be great. The reporter just got back to us that the deadline is COB. Let me know if I should request an extension.

Best,

**Rhina M. Lara** (*she/her/hers*)

Communications Branch

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Phone: (202) 815- 5722

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**From:** Biscoe, Melanie <[Biscoe.Melanie@epa.gov](mailto:Biscoe.Melanie@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 12:08 PM

**To:** Herrick, Jacquelyn <[Herrick.Jacquelyn@epa.gov](mailto:Herrick.Jacquelyn@epa.gov)>; Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>; Britton, Cathryn <[Britton.Cathryn@epa.gov](mailto:Britton.Cathryn@epa.gov)>; Saunders, Jennifer <[Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Fletcher, Rachel <[fletcher.rachel@epa.gov](mailto:fletcher.rachel@epa.gov)>; Cyran, Carissa <[Cyran.Carissa@epa.gov](mailto:Cyran.Carissa@epa.gov)>; Stoner, Nora <[Stoner.Nora@epa.gov](mailto:Stoner.Nora@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: PRESS INQUIRY: Media Interview Request: Business Insider - Seresto

Rachel and I are looking at this – will get back to you early afternoon.

Melanie Biscoe

Senior Regulatory Advisor, RMIB5

Pesticide Re-evaluation Division

US EPA Office of Pesticide Programs

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**From:** Herrick, Jacquelyn <[Herrick.Jacquelyn@epa.gov](mailto:Herrick.Jacquelyn@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 11:25 AM

**To:** Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>; Britton, Cathryn <[Britton.Cathryn@epa.gov](mailto:Britton.Cathryn@epa.gov)>; Saunders, Jennifer <[Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Biscoe, Melanie <[Biscoe.Melanie@epa.gov](mailto:Biscoe.Melanie@epa.gov)>; Fletcher, Rachel <[fletcher.rachel@epa.gov](mailto:fletcher.rachel@epa.gov)>; Cyran,

Carissa <[Cyran.Carissa@epa.gov](mailto:Cyran.Carissa@epa.gov)>; Stoner, Nora <[Stoner.Nora@epa.gov](mailto:Stoner.Nora@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: PRESS INQUIRY: Media Interview Request: Business Insider - Seresto

Looping in Nora because she is the contact for responding to petitions.

I don't have anything additional to add.

Thanks,

Jackie

Jacquelyn Herrick, PM 3

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(703) 347-0559

[herrick.jacquelyn@epa.gov](mailto:herrick.jacquelyn@epa.gov)

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**From:** Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2021 11:21 AM

**To:** Britton, Cathryn <[Britton.Cathryn@epa.gov](mailto:Britton.Cathryn@epa.gov)>; Saunders, Jennifer <[Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:Saunders.Jennifer@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Biscoe, Melanie <[Biscoe.Melanie@epa.gov](mailto:Biscoe.Melanie@epa.gov)>; Fletcher, Rachel <[fletcher.rachel@epa.gov](mailto:fletcher.rachel@epa.gov)>;

Herrick, Jacquelyn <[Herrick.Jacquelyn@epa.gov](mailto:Herrick.Jacquelyn@epa.gov)>; Cyran, Carissa <[Cyran.Carissa@epa.gov](mailto:Cyran.Carissa@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** PRESS INQUIRY: Media Interview Request: Business Insider - Seresto

**Importance:** High

Good Morning,

We received the press inquiry below regarding the Seresto pet collar petition. Please read/review my suggested responses and see questions/details in red.

Responses:

1. What generally happens when the EPA receives a petition like the one from the Center for Biologic Diversity?

When EPA receives a petition, the Agency carefully reviews the request and considers whether any regulatory action will be taken. Any regulatory action that follows as a result of a petition for rulemaking would still be shaped by the typical outreach used by the agency to gather stakeholder input, and is still subject to any applicable notice and comment requirements. To learn more about petitions, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/petitions>.

2. What happens during a public comment period?

During a comment period, the public has an opportunity to submit input for 60 days following the publication date of a proposed rule or petition in the Federal Register. Comments are available for viewing on the docket on an "as received" basis.

3. After the 60 day public comment period, about how long might it take for the EPA to respond to the petition?

Once the 60-day public comment period is over, EPA will review and consider the submitted comments before determining if any additional action is needed. **Can we add anything else here in terms of timeline?**

4. Should pet owners discontinue the use of the Seresto collar during this time?

EPA encourages pet owners to discuss with their veterinarian when flea and tick control is needed for their pets and which type of control product they should use. Pet owners should read the entire label before using the recommended product and follow all directions carefully, as well as monitor the pet after treatment.

Consumers whose pet experiences adverse reactions from treatment with a flea and tick product should consult their veterinarian immediately. They should also contact the [National Pesticide Information Center](#), an EPA information-sharing partner that has staff who are specially trained in responding to pesticide exposure incidents, including those involving pets. For flea and tick collars specifically, pet owners should remove the collar immediately if the pet experiences any adverse

reaction. In addition, consumers whose pets experienced an adverse reaction from pet collars or topical treatments should also report the incident on EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/pets](http://www.epa.gov/pets). This is from the OPP Update. Let me know if you have anything to add.

Best,

**Rhina M. Lara** (*she/her/hers*)

Communications Branch

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Phone: (202) 815- 5722

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Hello!

I'm trying to get some answers to the following questions in regard to the recent press release about the Seresto flea collar public comment period. Can a representative from the EPA respond?

1. What generally happens when the EPA receives a petition like the one from the Center for Biologic Diversity?
2. What happens during a public comment period?
3. After the 60 day public comment period, about how long might it take for the EPA to respond to the petition?
4. Should pet owners discontinue the use of the Seresto collar during this time?

Many thanks!

Jackie

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Jackie Brown <[jlfranza@yahoo.com](mailto:jlfranza@yahoo.com)>

**To:** Ken Labbe <[labbe.ken@epa.gov](mailto:labbe.ken@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021, 01:56:30 PM PDT

**Subject:** Fw: Media Interview Request: Business Insider

Hi Ken,

I just wanted to circle back to see if you might be able to answer the questions below?

Thank you for your help with this!

Jackie

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Jackie Brown <[jlfranza@yahoo.com](mailto:jlfranza@yahoo.com)>

**To:** Labbe, Ken <[labbe.ken@epa.gov](mailto:labbe.ken@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2021, 02:28:22 PM PDT

**Subject:** Re: Media Interview Request: Business Insider

Thank you so much for sharing Ken. My editors would like some original quotes for the article as well.

Can you explain what this means in lay terms the average pet owner will easily understand?

For instance:

1. What generally happens when the EPA receives a petition like the one from the Center for Biologic Diversity?
2. What happens during a public comment period?
3. After the 60 day public comment period, about how long might it take for the EPA to respond to the petition?
4. Should pet owners discontinue the use of the Seresto collar during this time?

Thank you!

Jackie

On Jul 13, 2021, at 1:51 PM, Labbe, Ken <[Labbe.Ken@epa.gov](mailto:Labbe.Ken@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Jackie,

I wanted to ensure that you saw our release here: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/epa-seeking-public-comment-petition-related-seresto-pet-collars>

If you have any questions afterwards, please feel free to reach out.

Thanks,

Ken

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**From:** Jackie Brown <[jlfranza@yahoo.com](mailto:jlfranza@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 9, 2021 1:00 PM  
**To:** Labbe, Ken <[Labbe.Ken@epa.gov](mailto:Labbe.Ken@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Media Interview Request: Business Insider

Hi Ken,

Thank you so much for getting back to me! Our deadline is 7/13/21.

Here are the questions for you:

1. The Seresto flea collar has been in the news lately after an investigation by USA. Can you provide an update about this collar and it's safety?
2. What do pet owners need to know about using the Seresto flea collar (or any flea collar for that matter)?
3. Where should people go to find the most current information about pet flea products?
4. Please feel free to share any additional current information about the Seresto collar or pet flea control products in general.

Many thanks!

Jackie Brown

On Friday, July 9, 2021, 06:31:50 AM PDT, Labbe, Ken <[labbe.ken@epa.gov](mailto:labbe.ken@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi Jackie,

Apologies for not seeing this until now. Can you send your specific questions, and deadline please?

Many Thanks,

Ken

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**From:** Jackie Brown <[jlfranza@yahoo.com](mailto:jlfranza@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** July 8, 2021 at 5:44:26 PM EDT  
**To:** [press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov)  
**Subject:** Fw: Automatic reply: Media Interview Request: Business Insider

Hello!

I've been trying to reach Ken without any response. I was hoping to interview someone who can speak to me about the Seresto cat flea collar. I'm writing an update to [this article](#) on Business Insider and we would like to include some additional information about Seresto.

Many thanks in advance for your assistance!

Jackie Brown, for Business Insider

949-275-2802

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Labbe, Ken <[labbe.ken@epa.gov](mailto:labbe.ken@epa.gov)>

**To:** Jackie Brown <[jlfianza@yahoo.com](mailto:jlfianza@yahoo.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2021, 02:52:00 PM PDT

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Media Interview Request: Business Insider

Kenneth T. Labbe

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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